

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 and 17-19 are pending in the present application, claim 16 having been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention. The Office Action and cited references have been considered. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 19 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

The Office Action required an election between two purported inventions:

1. Claims 1-15 and 19; and
2. Claims 16-18.

Claims 17-18 have been amended to depend from claim 19, instead of non-elected claim 16. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 17-18 are therefore part of the invention that is reflected in group 1. Applicant hereby elects the invention recited in claims 1-15 and 17-19.

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections of record. Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is most earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-628-5197.

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Respectfully submitted,

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